

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 892

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate David P. Altopp upon his induction into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dr. David P. Altopp, who was recently inducted into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, a 1962 graduate of Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis, Dr. Altopp graduated from Greenville College in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, from Arizona State University in 1969 as a Master of Physical Education, and from Southern Illinois State University's College of Education in 1981, having gained a doctorate; and

WHEREAS, a highly skilled baseball coach, Dr. David Altopp successfully led high school and collegiate teams for nearly four decades, including those of Phoenix Christian High School (1967-69), Greenville College (1969-71, 1975-79, 1980-90), Marion College (1972-75), Trevecca Nazarene University (1990-96), and Lee University (1996-2006); and

WHEREAS, prior to his 2006 retirement, Dr. Altopp utilized his leadership to guide his teams to success at nearly every level. His 1968 Phoenix Christian High School team won the Arizona Class B State Championship, his teams at Greenville College won five Prairie College Conference Championships, and his teams at Marion College won the Mid-Central Conference Championship once; and

WHEREAS, Dr. David Altopp continued this tradition of success at Lee University. His teams won several championships, including two TranSouth Conference Championships and a Southern States Conference Championship, and the 2005 team achieved a record of fifty-five

wins against sixteen losses while earning the school's first trip to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his extraordinary performance on the baseball diamond, Dr. Altopp has contributed to the improvement of collegiate baseball and the sport as a whole through his involvement in a variety of professional organizations. He has served as the Chairman of NAIA's Baseball Scholar-Athlete Committee, All-American Committee, and Tournament Procedures Committee; as a member of the NAIA Baseball Coaches Executive Committee; President of the NAIA Baseball Coaches Association; President of the American Baseball Coaches Association; a lifetime member of the American Baseball Coaches Association board of directors; and as Executive Director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Baseball Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Altopp's admirable coaching, clinic, and missionary endeavors have led him to Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Cuba, Germany, Israel, and Costa Rica; and

WHEREAS, David Altopp has written eleven articles for baseball publications, produced two baseball instructional videos for young players, and authored the book *Coach Quotes for Baseball*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Altopp's outstanding coaching talents and sedulous efforts on behalf of the sport have earned him numerous awards and much recognition, such as the Tennessee Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year Award, the TranSouth Conference Coach of the Year Award, the Southern States Coach of the Year Award, and two Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association NAIA Coach of the Year Awards; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his induction into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, he gained induction into the Halls of Fame of Greenville College, NAIA Baseball, and Lee University. In 2009, he will be inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, a fitting recognition of his lifelong dedication to America's favorite pastime; and

WHEREAS, David Altopp epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Altopp is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of forty-two years, Phyllis, his children, Michael Altopp and Shelli Altopp-Miller, and his grandchildren, Eva, Gabriel, Owen, Vivian, Beatrice, and Millicent; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud David Altopp for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Dr. David P. Altopp upon the occasion of his induction into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, even as we extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.